

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent of: )  
MASAHITO YAMAMOTO : Examiner: El Hadji Malick Sall  
Appln. No.: 09/823,990 ) : Art Unit: 2157  
Filed: April 3, 2001 ) : Conf. No.: 9692  
For: SERVICE MANAGEMENT APPARATUS )  
FOR MANAGING SERVICE INFORMA- :  
TION FOR SERVICES PRESENT IN NET- )  
WORK SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR :  
INSTRUCTING SERVICE MANAGEMENT )  
APPARATUS :  
U.S. Patent No.: 7,167,909 B2 :  
Issued: January 23, 2007 : February 12, 2008

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION  
UNDER RULES 322 AND 323

Sir:

It is respectfully requested that a Certificate of Correction be issued by the Patent and Trademark Office due to errors which appear in the printed patent as a result of Patent and Trademark Office mistakes, and mistakes of a clerical, typographical, or minor

character, which were not the fault of the Patent and Trademark Office. A Certificate of Correction form, in duplicate, is enclosed.

In view of the extensive errors in the claims as printed, Patentee wishes to observe that those errors result from the failure of the Patent and Trademark Office to include the changes made by the Amendment dated September 15, 2006 in the printed patent. In this regard, it is noted that that Amendment was filed with an RCE, and thus its entry was not subject to the Office's discretion (as would have been the case with an amendment made under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 or § 1.312). Moreover, the Notice of Allowability attached to the Notice of Allowance in this case specifically acknowledges the Amendment dated September 15, 2006 (referred to in that Notice as the Amendment of "September 19, 2006", the latter date presumably being the date on which the RCE and Amendment were received in the Patent and Trademark Office), and states that the allowance is in response to that Amendment. Accordingly, despite the length of the noted errors in the printing of the claims, the requested corrections do not in any way alter the scope of the claims as actually allowed by the Examiner.

The amount of \$100.00 to cover the statutory fee for such Certificate of Correction is being paid concurrently; please charge any deficiency in the fee, and credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Patentee's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Leonard P. Diana/  
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**PATENT NO.** : US 7,167,909 B2

**DATED** : January 23, 2007

**INVENTOR(S)** : MASAHIKO YAMAMOTO

Page 1 of 7

It is certified that error appears in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

**SHEET 10:**

Fig. 12, "DAVICE" (all occurrences) should read --DEVICE--.

**COLUMN 2:**

Line 44, "is" should read --are--.

**COLUMN 11:**

Line 25, "realizes" should read --realized--.

**COLUMN 23:**

Lines 48-63, Claim 1 should read:

--1. A service management apparatus in a network system, for managing service information of a service provided by a service apparatus and transferring the managed service information to an external apparatus in response to a request from the external apparatus, said service management apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing service information of services executed in the network system;

registration means for registering, in said storage means, service information of a certain service provided by the service apparatus by means of an application program, in response to a request from an external apparatus that is to execute the service;

test means for executing a trial use of the service provided by the service apparatus, wherein, in the trial use, said test means sends data to the

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service by using an operation of the service provided by the application program, said test means repeatedly executing the trial use;

evaluation means for evaluating the quality of the service, in response to execution of the trial use by said test means, and detecting a change in quality of the service between a current trial use and a previous trial use; and

renewal means for deleting the service information registered by said registration means from said storage means if the change detected by said evaluation means shows that the quality of the service does not meet a predetermined reference.--

**COLUMN 24:**

Line 3, "case" should read --case where--;

Lines 29-46, Claim 9 should read:

--9. An apparatus connected to a service management apparatus for managing service information of a service on a network system and transferring the managed service information to an external apparatus in response to a request from the external apparatus, said apparatus comprising:

storage means for storing service information of services executed in the network system;

registration means for registering, in said storage means, service information of a certain service provided by an application program in a service apparatus, in response to a request from an external apparatus that is to execute the service;

test means for executing a trial use of a service provided by means of the application program in another apparatus belonging to a same group as that of said apparatus, wherein, in the trial use, the service of the other apparatus is executed, said test means repeatedly executing the trial use;

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evaluation means for evaluating the quality of the service in response to execution of the trial use by said test means, and detecting change in quality of the service between a current trial use and a previous trial use; and

deletion means for instructing the service management apparatus to delete the service information related to said apparatus if the change detected by said evaluation means shows that the quality of the service does not meet a predetermined reference.--; and

Lines 47-63, Claim 10 should read:

--10. A service management method in a network system, for managing service information of a service provided by an apparatus and transferring the managed service information to an external apparatus in response to a request from the external apparatus, said service management method comprising:

    a storage step of storing, in storage, service information of services executed in the network system;

    a registration step of for registering, in the storage, service information of a certain service provided by the service apparatus by an application program, in response to a request from an external apparatus that is to execute the service;

    a test step of executing a trial use of the service provided by the apparatus, wherein, in the trial use, said test step includes sending data to the service by using an operation of the service provided by means of the application program, said test step also including repeatedly executing the trial use;

    an evaluation step of evaluating the quality of the service, in response to execution of the trial use in said test step, and detecting a change in quality of the service between a current trial use and a previous trial use; and

    a renewal step of deleting the service information registered in said registration step from the storage if the change detected in said evaluation step

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shows that the quality of the service does not meet a predetermined reference.--.

**COLUMN 25:**

Line 3, "case" should read --case where--; and  
Lines 30-48, Claim 18 should read:

--18. A method for use in an apparatus connected to a service management apparatus for managing service information of a service on a network system and transferring the managed service information to an external apparatus in response to a request from the external apparatus, said method comprising:

    a storage step of storing, in storage, service information of services executed in the network system;

    a registration step of registering, in the storage, service information of a certain service provided by an application program in a service apparatus, in response to a request from an external apparatus that is to execute the service;

    a test step of executing a trial use of a service provided by means of the application program in another apparatus belonging to a same group as that of the apparatus, wherein in the trial use, the service of the other apparatus is executed, said test step including repeatedly executing the trial use;

    an evaluation step of evaluating the quality of the service in response to execution of the trial use in said test step, and detecting change in quality of the service between a current trial use and a previous trial use; and

    a deletion step of instructing the service management apparatus to delete the service information related to the apparatus if the change detected in said evaluation step shows that the quality of the service does not meet a predetermined reference.--.

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**COLUMNS 25-26:**

Lines 49-55 and 1-10, Claim 19 should read:

--19. A computer readable storage medium storing a program for executing a service management method in a network system, for managing service information of a service provided by an apparatus and transferring the managed service information to an external apparatus in response to a request from the external apparatus, said program comprising:

code for a storage step of storing, in storage, service information of services executed in the network system;

code for a registration step of registering, in the storage, service information of a certain service provided by the service apparatus by an application program, in response to a request from an external apparatus that is to execute the service;

code for a test step of executing a trial use of the service provided by the apparatus, wherein, in the trial use, data are sent to the service by using an operation of the service provided by means of the application program, the test step also including repeatedly executing the trial use;

code for an evaluation step of evaluating the quality of the service, in response to execution of the trial use by execution of said code for a test step, and detecting a change in quality of the service between a current trial use and a previous trial use; and

code for a renewal step of deleting the service information registered by execution of said code for a registration step from the storage if the change detected by execution of said code for a evaluation step shows that the quality of the service does not meet a predetermined reference.--.

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**COLUMN 26:**

Lines 11-32, Claim 20 should read:

--20 A computer readable storage medium storing a program executing a method for use in an apparatus connected to a service management apparatus for managing service information of a service on a network system and transferring the managed service information to an external apparatus in response to a request from the external apparatus, said program comprising:

code for a storage step of storing, in storage, service information of services executed in the network system;

code for a registration step of registering, in the storage, service information of a certain service provided by an application program in a service apparatus, in response to a request from an external apparatus that is to execute the service;

code for a test step of executing a trial use of a service provided by the application program in another apparatus belonging to a same group as that of the apparatus, wherein, in the trial use, the service of the other apparatus is executed, the test step also including repeatedly executing the trial use;

code for an evaluation step of evaluating the quality of the service in response to execution of the trial use by said code for a test step, and detecting change in quality of the service between a current trial use and a previous trial use; and

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code for a deletion step of instructing the service management apparatus to delete the service information related to the apparatus if the change detected by execution of said code for an evaluation step shows that the quality of the service does not meet a predetermined reference.--.

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